

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A process ~~Process~~ for the production of a food product from a whey intermediate containing annatto as ~~wherein an intermediate form of said food product comprises a pigment, which process comprises:~~  
(a) contacting a whey intermediate containing annatto as a pigment ~~said intermediate form of the food product~~ with at least one enzyme for which annatto ~~said pigment~~ is a substrate under conditions such that at least a portion of the annatto ~~said pigment~~ present in the whey intermediate ~~said intermediate form of said food product~~ is converted directly by said at least one enzyme to form a whitened whey intermediate; and ~~into a form such that the whiteness of at least part of said intermediate form of said food product is increased and~~  
(b) preparing the ~~said food product is thereby prepared~~ from the whitened whey intermediate obtained from step (a).
2. (currently amended) The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 1 wherein the food product is made from flour.
3. (currently amended) The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 1 wherein the food product is a dairy product.
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 1 wherein the enzyme is added as an enzyme preparation derived from a microorganism or produced in situ by a microorganism capable of producing said enzyme.

6. (currently amended) ~~The process~~ Process according to claim 5 wherein the enzyme is added as an enzyme preparation derived from or produced in situ by a bacterium, a fungus or a yeast.
7. (currently amended) ~~The process~~ Process according to claim 6 wherein the fungus belongs to the genus *Marasmius*.
8. (previously presented) A food product made by the process according to claim 1.
9. (previously presented) A food product which comprises at least one part thereof that has been subjected to treatment with an enzyme according to the process of claim 1.
10. (canceled)
11. (currently amended) ~~The process~~ Process according to claim 2, wherein the flour is wheat flour.
12. (currently amended) ~~The process~~ Process according to claim 7, wherein the fungus is *Marasmius scorodonius*.
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)
15. (new) A process for whitening annatto-containing whey comprising contacting an annatto-containing whey with a beta-carotene converting enzyme obtained from *Marasmius scorodonius*.